

Report Documentation Page				Form Approved OMB No. 0704-0188	
Public reporting burden for the collection of information is estimated to average 1 hour per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to Washington Headquarters Services, Directorate for Information Operations and Reports, 1215 Jefferson Davis Highway, Suite 1204, Arlington VA 22202-4302. Respondents should be aware that notwithstanding any other provision of law, no person shall be subject to a penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information if it does not display a currently valid OMB control number.					
1. REPORT DATE 12 JAN 2010		2. REPORT TYPE		3. DATES COVERED 00-00-2010 to 00-00-2010	
4. TITLE AND SUBTITLE CRS Issue Statement on R&D to Enhance Homeland Security				5a. CONTRACT NUMBER	
				5b. GRANT NUMBER	
				5c. PROGRAM ELEMENT NUMBER	
6. AUTHOR(S)				5d. PROJECT NUMBER	
				5e. TASK NUMBER	
				5f. WORK UNIT NUMBER	
7. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES) Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress, 101 Independence Ave., SE, Washington, DC, 20540-7500				8. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION REPORT NUMBER	
9. SPONSORING/MONITORING AGENCY NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES)				10. SPONSOR/MONITOR'S ACRONYM(S)	
				11. SPONSOR/MONITOR'S REPORT NUMBER(S)	
12. DISTRIBUTION/AVAILABILITY STATEMENT Approved for public release; distribution unlimited					
13. SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES					
14. ABSTRACT					
15. SUBJECT TERMS					
16. SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF:			17. LIMITATION OF ABSTRACT Same as Report (SAR)	18. NUMBER OF PAGES 3	19a. NAME OF RESPONSIBLE PERSON
a. REPORT unclassified	b. ABSTRACT unclassified	c. THIS PAGE unclassified			



CRS Issue Statement on R&D to Enhance Homeland Security

Frank Gottron, Coordinator
Specialist in Science and Technology Policy

January 12, 2010

Congressional Research Service

7-5700

www.crs.gov

IS40372

The federal government invests in research and development (R&D) to improve the government's ability to prevent, respond to, and recover from terrorist attacks. Given the diverse nature of current and future terrorist threats, homeland security R&D involves nearly every scientific and technical discipline. In addition to conducting and sponsoring much of this R&D, the government is leveraging its investment by encouraging the private sector to similarly invest. Congress continues to face difficult decisions regarding funding, prioritizing, coordinating, and executing the federal government homeland security R&D agenda.

The Homeland Security Act of 2002 (P.L. 107-296) gave the Directorate of Science and Technology within the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) responsibility for most DHS R&D-related activities. This Directorate has been reorganized multiple times since its inception and has received intense congressional scrutiny. How DHS prioritizes, coordinates, and executes its R&D agenda remains an oversight issue for Congress.

The federal government has decided to expand the nation's ability to study dangerous pathogens through building additional specialized federal laboratories and encouraging the expansion of similar laboratory capacity in academia. Beyond traditional policy debate regarding appropriate R&D funding levels, these facilities may raise other cross-governmental policy issues. These include how federal facilities fit into a national homeland security R&D plan; how and by whom such a plan should be articulated; the appropriate scope of homeland security R&D work performed in federal laboratories versus academic or industry laboratories; and the appropriate level of government oversight on biological laboratories in the public, private, and academic sectors.

In December 2008, the congressionally chartered Commission on the Prevention of Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) Proliferation and Terrorism published its recommendations to reduce the likelihood of a WMD terrorist attack and to improve the nation's capacity to respond to an attack. The 111th Congress is considering legislation that would enact the Commission's recommendations and would directly affect how the government and private sector perform homeland security research and development.

Recent Congresses have enacted several measures to encourage private sector investment in homeland security R&D. Actions such as guaranteeing a government market for medical countermeasures through Project BioShield and creating a new office in the Department of Health and Human Services to encourage private industry to develop medical countermeasures have been taken, but the success or failure of these attempts remain undetermined. The success of these efforts rests largely on their effective implementation; therefore Congress is likely to continue to play a key oversight role. Additionally, Congress is likely to consider additional legislation to improve current programs, to address remaining barriers to private sector homeland security innovation, and further increase government and private sector synergies.

Issue Team Members

Frank Gottron, Coordinator
Specialist in Science and Technology Policy
fgottron@crs.loc.gov, 7-5854

Vanessa K. Burrows
Legislative Attorney
vburrows@crs.loc.gov, 7-0831

Gina Stevens
Legislative Attorney
gstevens@crs.loc.gov, 7-2581

Brian T. Yeh
Legislative Attorney
byeh@crs.loc.gov, 7-5182

Judith A. Johnson
Specialist in Biomedical Policy
jajohnson@crs.loc.gov, 7-7077

C. Stephen Redhead
Specialist in Health Policy
credhead@crs.loc.gov, 7-2261

Pamela W. Smith
Analyst in Biomedical Policy
psmith@crs.loc.gov, 7-7048

Susan Thaul
Specialist in Drug Safety and Effectiveness
sthaul@crs.loc.gov, 7-0562

Curtis W. Copeland
Specialist in American National Government
cwcopeland@crs.loc.gov, 7-0632

Jonathan Medalia
Specialist in Nuclear Weapons Policy
jmedalia@crs.loc.gov, 7-7632

John Rollins
Acting Section Research Manager/Specialist in
Terrorism and National Security
jrollins@crs.loc.gov, 7-5529

Amy F. Woolf
Specialist in Nuclear Weapons Policy
awoolf@crs.loc.gov, 7-2379

Mark Gurevitz
Information Research Specialist
mgurevitz@crs.loc.gov, 7-7204

Patricia Moloney Figliola
Specialist in Internet and Telecommunications
Policy
pfigliola@crs.loc.gov, 7-2508

Eric A. Fischer
Senior Specialist in Science and Technology
efischer@crs.loc.gov, 7-7071

Daniel Morgan
Specialist in Science and Technology Policy
dmorgan@crs.loc.gov, 7-5849

Jim Monke
Specialist in Agricultural Policy
jmonke@crs.loc.gov, 7-9664

Linda K. Moore
Specialist in Telecommunications Policy
lmoore@crs.loc.gov, 7-5853

John D. Moteff
Specialist in Science and Technology Policy
jmoteff@crs.loc.gov, 7-1435

John F. Sargent Jr.
Specialist in Science and Technology Policy
jsargent@crs.loc.gov, 7-9147

Wendy H. Schacht
Specialist in Science and Technology Policy
wschacht@crs.loc.gov, 7-7066

Dana A. Shea
Specialist in Science and Technology Policy
dshea@crs.loc.gov, 7-6844